

them and that her descriptions of habitat were so sketchy. Greer County is adjacent to the Texas panhandle and Miss Bull's work is the only representation from that area, except for the collections from one trip made hastily in 1914 by the late G. W. Stevens.

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A FLORA OF KENTUCKY.—It is a great pleasure to welcome to the growing array of state-floras one which assembles information on the distribution within the state of the flowering plants of Kentucky. Professor E. Lucy Braun¹ has given us her knowledge of local ranges and many critical comments. Divided between differing judgments of specific values, she has often avoided umpiring by following extended works on groups without noting dissenting evaluations. She thus accepts Hitchcock's Manual for the *Gramineae*; and all the members of *Panicum* for which she has found records appear, consequently, with no intimation that several close students have independently merged as one species, for example, *P. huachucae*, *Lindheimeri* and *tennesseense*, or, similarly, that in *Paspalum*, competent students have protested the keeping apart as species *P. circulare* and *P. laeve*. In these more technical groups the author has, obviously, not been in a position to decide. In groups more familiar to her she has made pertinent notes, like the failure of the leaves of the *Arisaema triphyllum* series to hold consistently to green or glaucous lower surfaces, or the ecological phases of *Aquilegia canadensis* failing to maintain their individuality when grown in similar habitats; and in a large number of cases, where no extended volume was leaned upon, recent critical studies of individual genera or species have been accepted. The citations in these cases greatly add to the reference-value of the *Catalog*. The great amount of collecting and of study of literature and the larger and older herbaria still to be done before the full content of the flora of the state is enumerated in one catalogue is evident from there being no mention of such weedy plants (found north, south, east and west of Kentucky) as *Camelina*, *Raphanus*, *Brassica* (except *nigra*) and *Erysimum cheiranthoides*, or of the weedy *Trifolium dubium*, which was sent to Asa Gray in 1855 by Short with the comment: "A volunteer in my garden and grass lots—never observed 'till this summer. Should be embraced among Kentucky plants." In *Trifolium*, furthermore, one misses any native species. They are doubtless local, but in the Gray Herbarium there are characteristic specimens from Kentucky of the native *T. reflexum* (three stations) and a fine specimen from Lexington, Short, of the native *T. stoloniferum*. In fact, both these natives were in Short's published *Catalogue* of 1833. In the first two-thirds of the *Archaeamydeae* one misses other noteworthy natives of Kentucky: *Stellaria fontinalis* (Short & Peter) Robinson, based on *Sagina fontinalis* Short & Peter from "cliffs of the Kentucky river and Elkhorn creek"; *Clematis glaucophylla*

¹E. LUCY BRAUN. An Annotated Catalog of Spermatophytes of Kentucky. Copyright 1943 by E. Lucy Braun. Planographed. 161 pp.

Small (several stations represented in the Gray Herbarium); *Lesquerella globosa* (Desv.) S. Wats., generally identified with *Vesicaria Shortii* Torr. & Gray, the type of which came from "Banks of Elkhorn Creek, near Frankfort, Kentucky, *Short!*"; *Apios Priceana* Robinson, one of Miss Price's notable discoveries in Warren County; and *Centrosema virginianum* var. *ellipticum* (DC.) Fernald, from Wayne County—see RHODORA, xliii. 588 (1941). These and other similar cases indicate the large amount of work yet to be done in drawing together the scattered items on the flora of Kentucky. The author of the present Catalog has the energy and enthusiasm. We may look hopefully for a fuller record of old, as well as new Kentucky collections from her pen.—M. L. F.

A CHECK-LIST OF KENTUCKY PLANTS.—Another catalogue of vascular plants of Kentucky has been published by Prof. Frank T. McFarland. It is only a check-list and makes no claim to be anything more.¹ Genera and species are arranged alphabetically under their families; no further data of any kind and no synonymy are given. It is, however, a good check-list. There has been an obvious and for the most part successful effort to take into account the results of recent taxonomic work. The list should be useful and reliable for any purpose which such a list can serve.

Neither Prof. Braun nor Prof. McFarland has been able to do much with the flora of western Kentucky, and both are conscious that their catalogues are far from complete. McFarland's is, to some extent, deliberately so: he has thought best to base his records on specimens in the herbaria of the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and to disregard unverified reports in literature. The result is that the two catalogues are reciprocally incomplete. McFarland's, for instance, includes the pteridophytes and most of the species noted by Prof. Fernald as omitted from Braun's; and Braun's contains, along with a good many recent discoveries of her own, presumably trustworthy reports from literature (like Mackenzie's records of *Carex Buxbaumii* and *C. comosa*) not noticed by McFarland. With the knowledge that the data back of McFarland's undocumented records exist in the herbaria which he used, the two catalogues can be used to supplement one another.—C. A. W.

¹ FRANK T. MCFARLAND. A Catalogue of the Vascular Plants of Kentucky. Reprinted, without change of pagination, from *Castanea*, vii. 77-108 (1942).